



CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

Office of Communications

703-248-5003
FAX 703-248-5146

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT:
Nicole Gobbo
703-248-5210

Dionne Williams
703-248-5101

MEDIA ADVISORY

City of Falls Church Street Sweeping, Wednesday, July 7, 2004

FALLS CHURCH, VA - On Wednesday, July 7, 2004, beginning at 8 a.m., Reilly Sweeping will make its first sweep of all commercial and residential areas in the City of Falls Church. To improve the effectiveness of the street sweeping, Falls Church City residents are encouraged to move all vehicles off of the streets on Wednesday, July 7, 2004.

Although the City has provided street sweeping for many years, the new contract with Reilly Sweeping is part of an effort to reduce the volume of pollutants that enter local streams through the City's 900 storm drains. City staff recently developed new contract specifications and conducted a competitive bid process to solicit bids for sweeping and cleaning services for all municipally maintained commercial streets, residential streets, and parking areas in the City. The new contract provides for tandem sweeping, in which two sweepers are used on each street. The first sweep picks up larger, more visible objects (e.g., paper, cans, cigarette butts, and other debris), while the second sweep vacuums fine particulate matter.

A six year, EPA-funded study conducted by the Lake Barcroft Watershed Improvement District concluded that the best management practice leading to improved storm water quality is effective street sweeping and that tandem sweeping is the most effective methodology for reducing storm water pollutants.

The new City contract also provides for increased frequency, so that commercial streets will be swept twice a month and residential streets once a month. Residents will be notified of the new street sweeping schedule upon completion of the first sweep.

For more information, contact City of Falls Church Environmental Programs Specialist Annette Mills at 703-248-5176.

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